IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention is related to the invention described in U.S. Patent Application ~~Attorney Docket Hintikka 2-1-3-1~~ Serial No. 10/609,781, filed June 30, 2003 and entitled "Simulation Framework with Support for Multiple Integrated Circuits Having Potentially Differing Characteristics," the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herein.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

The simulator control module 102 includes event-based control comprising an event scheduler module 110 and a control state machine 112, and clock-based control 114. Additional description regarding the operation of these elements of the software-based development tool 100 can be found in the above-cited U.S. Patent Application ~~Attorney Docket Hintikka 2-1-3-1~~ Serial No. 10/609,781, filed June 30, 2003.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

In a simulation of the system 600, the software-based development tool 100 may generate simulated traffic that is supplied to the line cards. Examples of traffic generators suitable for use with the invention are described in U.S. Patent Applications ~~Attorney Docket Nos. Kumar 1-1 and D 1-4-2-1-3~~ Serial Nos. 10/620,258 and 10/620,044, both filed concurrently herewith and incorporated by reference herein. Although not shown in FIG. 1, such traffic generators may be incorporated within the software-based development tool 100. A single user interface can advantageously be used to control the traffic generator(s) as well as the generation of an appropriate simulation configuration, thereby accelerating the system design process.

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